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Appl. No. 09/890,180

Amdt. dated November 21, 2005

Reply to Office Action of August 24, 2005

PATENT**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the abstract of the specification as follows:

ABSTRACT

A system for establishing a secure communication channel between ~~a first user (102) and a second user (112)~~ users in an IP telephony network is described. The ~~A~~ first user and the second user ~~are~~ may be coupled to first (104) and second (114) telephony adapters, which in turn ~~are~~ may be coupled to first (106) and second (116) gateway controllers, respectively, wherein the gateway controllers control user access to the IP telephony network. The telephony adapters ~~are~~ may be used to encrypt and decrypt user information exchanged over the IP telephony network. The system includes a method which begins when a request is received at the first gateway controller to establish a secure communication channel ~~between the first user and the second user~~. Next, a secret key (408) ~~is~~ may be generated at the first gateway controller. A copy of the secret key ~~is~~ may be distributed to the first and second telephony adapters over previously established secure connections. [[finally, t]] The secure communication channel ~~is~~ may be established (422) between ~~the first user and the second users~~ by encrypting and decrypting information using the secret key.